

Surname	Langley
Forename(s)	John William
Initials	J W
Age	
Honours/Awards	Military Medal
Date died	11/08/1918
Rank	Lance Corporal
Regiment	The King's (Liverpool Regiment)
Unit/Squadron	1 st Bn.
Service Number	332994
Cemetery/Memorial	Moyenneville (Two Tree) Cemetery
Grave Reference	A.21.
Further Information	Eldest son Mr. J. Langley, of 4, Cromer Drive, Liscard



News Report

"The Bravest of the Brave"

Wallasey Military Medallist Killed

Two months ago Lance-Corpl. John William Langley, of the King's Liverpool Regt., the eldest son of Mr. J. Langley, coal merchant, of 4, Cromer Drive, Liscard, won the Military Medal for gallantry on the field. He was shortly expected home but the sad news has been received by his parents that he was shot by a sniper whilst on dangerous work, for which he volunteered. Before the war Lance-Corpl. Langley was apprenticed to Mr. Bellis, plumber, of Liscard. He was a member of the 12th Wallasey Scouts, and was an old St. Mary's boy, being captain of the football team, while he afterwards played for Christ Church and won many football medals. The officer in charge of the company writes to the parents:- "I was ordered to take out a patrol at 2.30 in the afternoon (August 14) to locate the Boches, so I asked for volunteers. Your son asked me to let him come along, which I did, so with your son and two others I proceeded out. The Boches were over one and three-quarter miles away, so we all strolled along

joking and looking for pieces of Boches equipment etc. At about 4 p.m. we got to the Boches position without being seen, but as soon as we got in their trench they started coming along in large numbers so we decided to withdraw. I told your son to crawl along the side of the road and get back towards our line whilst I would cover his withdrawal. As soon as I started crawling a concealed sniper shot your son through the side in line with his heart. He died instantaneously. I might say that the others of the patrol were wounded. Your boy was the bravest of the brave. Four times previously he volunteered to come out on night patrol with me. He was the best N.C.O. in my patrol, and I had just previously recommended him for promotion. He was beloved by all the men in his section, and was most popular with all who knew him. I miss him tremendously. He was my right-hand man. It must be a most extremely heavy blow to you all, but I am sure you will find a little consolation in the knowledge of his great bravery and the gloriously brave manner in which he met his death. In conclusion I implore you to accept my sincere sympathy and also the sympathy of all his pals.”

References and Acknowledgments

Commonwealth War Grave Commission
Wallasey Central Library – Reference Library

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